GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2130
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2001
SPRINKLING OF ASH BY PAKISTAN
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is carrying on experiments in the Himalayan glaciers feeding the Indian rivers by sprinkling huge quantity of ash to increase water flow into the catchment areas of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the implications involved in so far as the feeding of the Indian rivers by the glaciers is concerned; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) Media reports indicate that Pakistanis considering such a proposal to artificially generate snow melts from the Himalayan glaciers and though a firm assessment of its implications may not be feasible from the limited information available, artificially induced melting of snow by sprinkling ash over the glaciers may not generate floods due to usually low melting rate in such cases.